The rejection objects to Claims 1-20, regarding the claim language "I/O read data" and "I/O read instruction." The rejection asserts that the disclosure of the invention is directed to an "I/O read" followed by a conditional jump instruction that depends on the result of the I/O read. Moreover, the rejection asserts that "the Applicants' have <u>confused</u> the terminology I/O read instruction and I/O read data." Applicant respectfully disagrees and requests that the Examiner consider the entire application as filed.

Examiner is respectfully directed to page 26, lines 11-14 disclosing that I/O read <u>information</u> is transferred from the microcontroller to the virtual microcontroller in order to provide the <u>results</u> of the I/O read operations to the virtual microcontroller (see Instant Application, page 26, lines 11-14). Moreover, the instant application discloses that although the microcontroller has access to I/O read <u>information</u> immediately after the read, the virtual microcontroller waits for <u>data</u> to be transferred over bus in order to obtain the I/O read <u>information</u> (see Instant Application, page 26, lines 14-16). The instant application further discloses that when an instruction following an I/O read is a conditional jump instruction based on the <u>result</u> of the I/O read, the virtual microcontroller may not have enough time to properly compute the location of a conditional jump (see Instant Application, page 26, lines 17-19) due to data latency described above. In order to overcome this problem, the virtual microcontroller always assumes that a

jump condition is true and computes the target jump location as the I/O <u>data</u> is being received (see Instant Application, page 27, lines 5-9).

Accordingly, Applicant finds no confusion in the terminology used. As such, withdrawal of the objection is earnestly solicited.

<u>Claim rejections 35 U.S.C. § 112</u>

Claims 1-20 are rejected, under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as allegedly failing to set forth the subject matter which applicant regards as his invention. The rejection asserts that the claim language defines an entity (said microcontroller) sends something (I/O read data) which is followed by something (conditional jump instruction) that exists at the destination (virtual microcontroller). The rejection further asserts that "by analogy, this language is similar to sending a piece of mail to the post office, wherein said piece of mail is followed by a package that is already located at the post office." The rejection asserts that this limitation is vague and indefinite. Applicant respectfully disagrees in view of the remarks discussed above with respect to the "I/O read data."

Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that there is <u>nothing</u> vague and indefinite about the claimed limitations. Using Examiner's own analogy, it is respectfully submitted that the piece of mail sent to the post office is needed in

order for something to be done to the package that already exists at the post office. Therefore, Applicant asserts that the claimed language is not vague and indefinite. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection is earnestly solicited. As such, independent claims are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection is earnestly requested. Dependent claims are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph by virtue of their dependency.

For the above reasons, the Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above listed remarks, reconsideration of the rejected Claims 1-20 is requested. Based on the arguments presented above, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-20 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, allowance of Claims 1-20 is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any additional fees or apply any credits to our PTO deposit account number: 50-4160.

Respectfully submitted,
MURABITO, HAO & BARNES LLP

Dated: _5/6/2008_

/Amir A. Tabarrok/
Amir A. Tabarrok
Registration No. 57,137

MURABITO, HAO & BARNES LLP
Two North Market Street
Third Floor
San Jose, California 95113

(408) 938-9060 Voice
(408) 938-9069 Facsimile